

- L. I. College Hospital, 1 full time for 1 year.
 Mt. Sinai Hospital, 1 full time for 1 year.
 Cumberland Street Hospital, 1 part full time for 2 months.
 Broad Street Hospital, 1 full time for 3 months.
 Gouverneur Hospital, 1 part full time for 1 year.
 Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn, 2 full time for 1 year.
 Brownsville & East. N. Y. Hospital, 1 part full time for 6 months.
 Beth Moses Hospital (Bklyn.), 1 full time for 6 months.
 City Hospital (Welfare Island), 1 full time for 3 months.
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MEDIÆVAL PEST-TRACTS AND DREAM-BOOKS

Documents scientifiques du XV^e siècle. I. Remedes contre la peste. Facsimilés, notes et liste bibliographique des incunables sur la peste. By A. C. Klebs and E. Droz. 96 pp., sm. 4 Paris. E. Droz, 1925.

II. La clef des songes. Facsililés, notes et liste des éditions incunables. By Maurice Hélin. 100 pp., sm. 4 . Paris. E. Droz, 1925.

These exquisite keepsakes, printed on vellum paper, consist of facsimile reproductions of medical incunabula, published, at very obvious financial risk, by an enterprising young French-woman, Mlle. Droz.

The first contains *the Regime* of Jean Jasme [Johannes Jacobi], written in 1357 and printed by Guillaume Le Roy at Lyons in 1476, the *Remede* of the same author, commonly attributed to Knut, Bishop of Vesteras (1461), and published by Pierre Le Dru at Paris toward the end of the 15th century, another *Remede* of Jacobi printed by Antoine Caillaut at Paris about the same time, and facsimile pages of two other *Regimes*, the first attributed to Thomas Le Forestier and printed by Jacques Le Forestier at Rouen on October 21, 1495, the other a *Regime* attributed to the physicians of Basel and printed at Lyons by Claude Nourry circa 1519. The first of these pest-tracts, a poem made up of 90 dizains, each ending in the word "epedimie," was regarded by the editors as the earliest known writing on plague. A MS. of 1357 was found in the library

of the late Baron James de Rothschild (Paris), but an earlier MS. in the Catalanian dialect, an epistle of Jacme d'Agramont (1348), was subsequently found in the Archives of Lerida. Jean Jasme, or Johannes Jacobi (*anglice* John James), the author of the Regime of 1357, was a member of the Montpellier Faculty, of which he became chancellor in 1364. He was physician to Pope Urban V and to the emperor Charles V, for whom he wrote a manual of medical practice (1378). A contemporary of Guy de Chauliac and Valescus de Taranta, his writings reveal the Arabist tendencies of the Montpellier school. His poem shows the tendency (novel in the Middle Ages) to associate such diseases as plague with filth, and is so like the second incunable of this collection in content that the attribution of both to the same author seems inevitable. The Salernitan *Regimen Sanitatis* has verses on the pest which suggest an interpolation from the Jacobian *Regime*. The notes and bibliography of incunabula on the pest at the end are interesting and valuable. The work is illustrated by three woodcuts, one showing the mediaeval physician receiving his patients, another depicting him at his desk with the characteristic monkish lectern, slanted at 45°, the third a blood-letting mannikin.

The second quarto of this series comprises texts of three different versions of one of the mediaeval dream-books, the *Somnia Danielis*, with facsimile reproductions of title-pages, specimen pages, colophons and woodcuts from other editions. The cult goes back to the days of Chaldean astrology, of which the *locus classicus* is Daniel II, 7: "Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will shew the interpretation of it." As the editor points out, dream-books of this type established themselves in mediaeval Europe by way of Byzantium. They became popular in the Middle Ages, and went by such names as the "Dreams of Joseph," the "Prognostics of Ezekiel," the "Lunars of Solomon," etc. The Chaldean lore of dreams goes back, however, to the animism of savages and is even reflected in Plato's statement that dreams are prophetic visions received by the "lower soul" through the liver (*Timaeus*, XLVI, 47). Even the Australian medicine man tries to interpret dreams. Even the Siamese have dream books. Hippocrates and Galen, while admitting with the Stoic philosophers that some dreams may be

divine revelations, took the important stand that others may be pathological, indicative of diseased states of mind and body. The present editor catalogues no less than 36 separate incunabula going by the name of "Daniel's dreams." The interpretations are what we might expect: To dream of climbing a tree means you will rise in the world. To dream of washing your head means you will be out of danger. To weep in dreams means joy. As hinted in the introduction, the booklet is obviously designed to interest the psychiatrists, although the dreams specified and the interpretation thereof are somewhat different from the oneiric data of psychoanalysis. A detailed analysis of dreams and dream-books remains to be written.

F. H. GARRISON

LIBRARY NOTES

Deaths in New York in 1798-99

In the April number of the Bulletin appeared the abstract of a paper entitled, "Intimations of Public Health in Early New York" by Dr. Donald B. Armstrong. In it is stated that: "The earliest fairly reliable mortality statistical records for New York City are found in a semi-centennial table of mortality covering the period 1804-53."

We wish to draw attention to the fact that the Library possesses two rare and rather curious pamphlets which tell us about deaths in New York in its early days. The first is entitled, "A List of the Names of the Persons Interred in the Several Burying Grounds in the City of New York, and at Bellevue, and Potters-Field, from August 1 to November 14, 1798." One hundred and twenty-nine pages are devoted to alphabetical lists of names, occupation, address, and, sometimes, age of those who died. In some instances it is stated from what country the dead person came. There are one or two occasions on which the cause of illness is stated, such as "consumption." Some of the entries are quaintly worded—"Codwise George, the wench of, 341 Pearl Street," "Copp Wm. bellevue, late one of the editors of the Gazette published at Kingston, Ulster county," "Craton Mrs. Æt. 44 decay," "M'Donald James, (the noted sportsman)